

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ("USPTO")**

**First Named Inventor:** Hiroshi TSUDA                      **Confirmation No.:** 3398

**Serial No.:** 10/083,121                      **Examiner:** NGUYEN, Cindy

**Filed:** Feb 27, 2002                      **Group Art Unit:** 2161

**Title:** Document sorting method based on link relation

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-SB08. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☐ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign

patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- ☒ c. A charge to Deposit Account No. **50-4610** in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **50-4610** as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **50-4610** as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

OPTIONAL PARAGRAPH 4:

- ☒ a. Copy/Copies of the U.S. Patent reference(s) is/are not enclosed.
- ☒ b. The reference(s) was/were cited in counterpart foreign applications. Partial English language translation of the foreign Office Actions are attached for the Examiner's information.
- ☒ c. An English-language Abstract(s) of some of the cited non-English language reference(s) are attached hereto.

In the event that any fees are due with respect to this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. **50-4610**, referencing Atty. Docket No. 01-52051.

**PATENT**

Docket No.: 01-52051  
App. Ser. No.: 10/083,121

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 20, 2009

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